



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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**MEMBER**  
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE  
INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Commerce Committee  
Public Testimony  
Thursday, February 27, 2014

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 5275 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE,  
LIVE HERE PROGRAM AND BUSINESS CREATION

Dear Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone, Senator Frantz, Representative Lavielle and esteemed members of the Commerce Committee,

I submit this testimony in support of House Bill 5275, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE,  
LIVE HERE PROGRAM AND BUSINESS CREATION.

The purpose of this bill is to require the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to establish the Learn Here, Live Here program. The legislation will allow funds from the program to be applied to the establishment of a new business in the state.

As many of you know, it has become increasingly difficult for young professionals to afford to buy a home and start a business in Connecticut. Numerous reports have recently been released indicating that homeownership among young adults is at an all-time low. Likewise, the State of Connecticut has also been ranked near the bottom recently for entrepreneurship and business startups, both of which are essential to a vibrant economy.

The adoption of this proposal sends a clear message to those who graduate from Connecticut schools that we, as a state, want them to stay, help build our economy, and encourage them to start the businesses of our future.

I urge the committee's favorable consideration of House Bill 5275.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Davis", written over a horizontal line.

Christopher Davis  
State Representative  
57<sup>th</sup> District